

To Our Lovely Grange Families,



15th December 2023

We are finally here at the end of a busy, jam-packed and successful autumn term! The weeks have flown by and it seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming the children in, ready to join their new classes and year groups. It has been wonderful to watch them blossom and grow into confident, kind and caring individuals, making huge leaps in progress and embracing new learning with excitement and resilience. We really are so proud of them all.

The last couple of weeks have been so busy, full of Christmas fun, celebration and performances. On Monday our Year 1 and Year 2 classes gave it their all for their Nativity at St Mary's church. The church was packed out with family and friends and we were amazed at the support given for this event. The children definitely rose to the occasion and proved what superstars they really are, singing their hearts out and giving everyone their best moves! On Tuesday, our Year Rs premiered their performance of Whoopsadaisy Angel, not just once but twice! The smiles on everyone's face in the audience, as well as the many rounds of applause, told us just how proud you were of our youngest members of the school community. We are so glad we could share with you these precious moments which will become memories that you will be talking about for years to come. A huge thank you to all of the staff for the time and energy invested in practising the songs and perfecting the dance moves; to the wonderful office for making sure all families got the updates about timings and places and lastly, a special thank you to all of the children for being so patient, so polite and for putting their hearts into the performances.



You are all AMAZING!

Our Christmas passes were again a great success this year and well supported by our families. It was so lovely seeing the beaming, happy faces at the Christmas dinner, party and grotto last week. I'm sure the children slept very well after such an exciting day. Thank you to Mrs Fairs, Miss Allison and Mrs Bamfield for being the driving force behind the Christmas passes and preparing everything for the Santa gifts, the activities and the Christmas biscuit and drink. The children had a ball! It is also down to their hard work and effort that we were again able to hold such a brilliant raffle. Well done to all of the winners!

The usual coughs and colds have hit us all hard in the last week, me included. I was devastated to miss the end of the term and to see all the children in their Christmas hats with growing excitement for the big day! Hopefully, this two week break ahead of us will bring a welcome rest, time to refresh ready for the new year and the new term ahead.

I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a wonderful New Year. As a school, we are so lucky to have such supportive and caring families. I look forward to welcoming you all back in 2024 on Tuesday 2nd January.

Miss Myers ☺



The Grange Infant School Christmas Raffle

Wow! What can I say? The photo below says it all! What an amazing amount of chocolate and gifts was donated on our Christmas Jumper day! Thank you everybody for making this raffle such a brilliant one with so many prizes. Congratulations to all of our winners!

A big thank you to our wonderful School Council for drawing the winning tickets.

The raffle was so hugely popular, we are still counting up our grand total! Thank you for all your support as this all goes straight back into helping our school.

The proceeds will go towards curriculum opportunities, resources and experiences for the children.



Weekly attendance: Cool to be In School

Each week, attendance is tracked across the school and on a Friday the class with highest attendance for that week, gets a certificate. At the end of each term, we look at who has had the best attendance overall and that class gets to choose an item for their class such as a new game.

This week the winners are: Owls with 95.09%

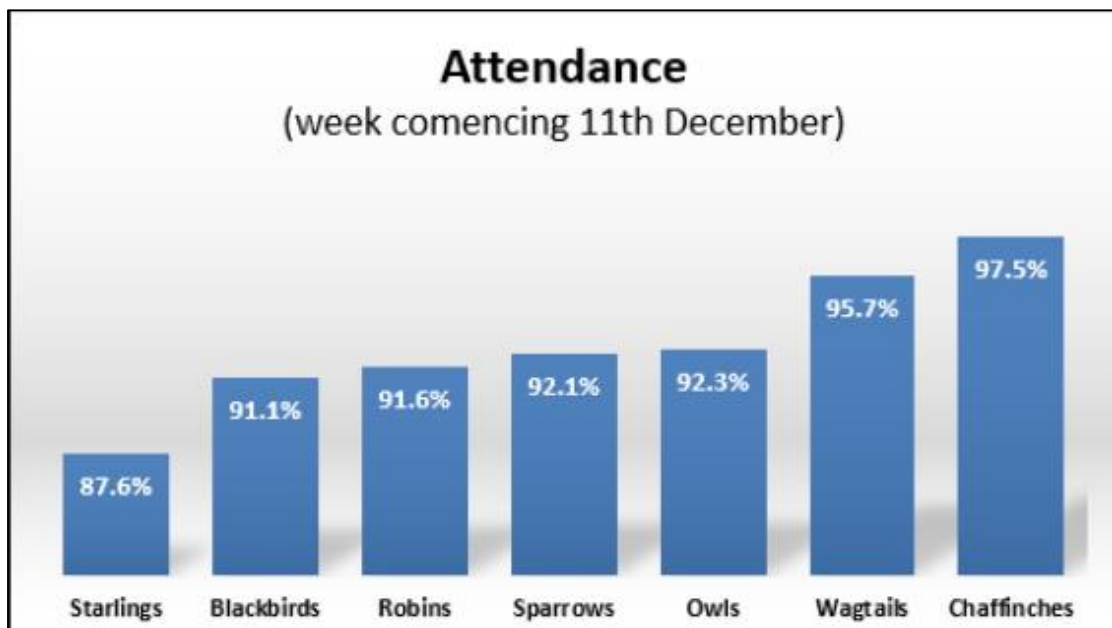
Congratulations and well done for your great attendance this week.

Don't forget, the more you're in school, the more learning you can do!

As a school, we have a responsibility and a duty of care to ensure that children attend school regularly and that attendance is good. Where attendance drops, we will make contact with parents and carers and work with you to get attendance back on track.

Should your child be unwell and unable to attend that day, please contact the office to let us know and this will be recorded on our registers.

During out of office hours, you will be able to leave a message.



Reporting School Absence

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please can you make sure you phone this through into the school office. A message can also be left if there is no one to answer the phone.

Whilst we love Class Dojo and all that it offers, please can we ask that parents do not use the messaging service to report absence. Thank you!



Staying in touch during the Christmas Break

We like to see the school as being at the heart of our community and always try our best to support our families.

Although school will be closed to families for the next two weeks, you will still be able to get in touch should you need to.

We are always here.

Please use my email which I check daily or contact me via Class Dojo.

s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk



Any unwanted gifts or left overs?!

We are always looking to support local charities and have been able to offer support to many of our families this Christmas through local groups.

If you have any unwanted items or non-perishable food, we will be delivering donations in the new year to support worthwhile causes.

Thank you!



PE Days for the Spring Term 2024

There have been no changes to PE days, but a reminder of them is below 😊

Please can you make sure all jewellery is removed as part of our health and safety guidance.

It is always good practice to name all items of clothing too!

We would ask that PE kits consist of black shorts or trackies when it is colder and a plain white t-shirt. School jumpers or cardigans can be worn on top so please avoid hoodies or other sweatshirts. We encourage the children to wear black plimsolls or plain black trainers.

Starlings and Sparrows: Wednesdays

Chaffinches, Robins and Wagtails: Mondays

Owls and Blackbirds: Tuesdays



shutterstock.com · 741458455

Applying for School Places

If you have a child who is due to start in either Year R or Year 3 in September 2024, please make sure you have completed the application within the window.

This window closes **15th January 2024** and any applications made after this will be classes as 'late' and may affect the allocation of the school.

Please use this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/yearrandyear3>

Notification of places for 'on time' applications is **16th April 2024**.



Things to look forward to!

Tuesday 2nd January: School opens for the Spring term 2024! *Yes- isn't it early?!*

Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th February: Year 1 trips to HMS Sultan

Thursday 8th February: School closes for the half term break (INSET on the Friday)

Thursday 28th March: School closes for the Easter holidays

Monday 15th April: The summer term begins!

Friday 24th May: School closes for the half term break

Monday 22nd July: School closes for the summer holidays

INSET dates for this year- we like to give you plenty of warning so you can prepare!

Friday 9th February: Common closure day for Gosport and Fareham schools

Friday 5th July: Transition planning

Tuesday 23rd July: Behaviour and restorative practice



The connect4communities programme, funded by the Department for Work and Pensions Household Support Fund, aims to support those most in need with significantly rising living costs. Grange Infant School, as with all schools in Hampshire, has been allocated funding to support our families who are in need and who may be struggling with the rising costs of food, energy and clothing.

We are here to support all of our families at this difficult time and with Christmas and winter ahead, want to reach out to see how we can help. We are asking for any families who are worried about food and rising costs to get in touch. We will then arrange a chat with you to agree how we can support you, whether that be through vouchers for food, winter coats, clothing or blankets. You will be invited in for a chat and a cuppa with me, Miss Myers, and I can talk through with you what we can do to help. You can also talk to me on the playground.

If you would like to arrange a chat, please email in to the following address:

s.myers@grange-inf.hants.sch.uk

All emails are private and will be handled sensitively.

The connect4communities website also has links for local area and regional support such as food pantries and holiday clubs. Use this link to find out more:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

Food banks in the Gosport area: Please make contact to see what they have available first:

Gosport Basics Bank: The Old Railway, Gosport. 07826 305900

Family Church, Gosport: Empower Centre, 2A Layton Road, Gosport 0300 3020090

Jacob's Well Centre, The store cupboard, Toronto Place, Gosport

Salvation Army, The Crossways, Gosport 02392 524349

Trash Café, 14 South Street, Gosport- Pay 'as you feel'

Gosport Borough Football Club: Feed a Family hampers: 07868 089757

Revitalise Charity shop: Good quality second hand clothing: 82 Gregson Avenue, Gosport

Acts of Kindness Community: search on Facebook or call 02393 812868



Goodbye Miss Clark!

We were very sad to say goodbye to Miss Clark on Wednesday. Miss Clark has been a class teacher at Grange Infants for 2 years, having joined us in 2021. During her time here, she has led computing across the school and has taught in Year R and now Year 1.

Miss Clark will be greatly missed by us all here at Grange Infants and we wish her the best of luck as she moves on to start this next step in her career as a Year R teacher at Bedenham Primary.

I know you will join me and the school's Governing Board in thanking Miss Clark for her hard work and commitment to the school over the last 2 years.

We wish her every happiness in her new role!





Festive Fun on the last day of term!





Wow and Proud

Sparrows

Wow Writer is **Holly** for hearing lots of sounds and writing independently!

Proud Pot is **Robbie** for getting his "b" sounds the right way round!

Starlings

Wow Writer is **Scarlett** for her excellent CVC words with kinetic letters!

Proud Pot is **Tilly** for her super pattern with sticks!

Chaffinches

Wow Writer is **Maia** for her fantastic letter to Santa!

Proud Pot is **Blake** and **ALL the Chaffinches** for having a great first term in Year 1!

Robins

Wow Writer is **Noah P** for beautiful handwriting!

Proud Pot is **Alvia** for her fabulous calendar art!

Wagtails

Wow Writer is **Kamsi** for writing a while, super, story!

Proud Pot is **ALL the Wagtails** for a great first term!

Blackbirds

Wow Writer is **Alex** for super effort with sentences that make sense!

Proud Pot is **Taejon** for his amazing Florence Nightingale hospital model he made for his homework project!

Owls

Wow Writer is **Ava** for her excellent description of the storm!

Proud Pot is **Amelia** who drew and painted like Picasso for her calendar!

Wishing All Our
Grange Families
a Happy Christmas
and Best Wishes
for 2024



See you on Tuesday 2nd January!